

§ 21.601

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any technical data respecting that material, part, or appliance.

[Amdt. 21–25, 34 FR 14068, Sept. 5, 1969]

Subpart O—Technical Standard Order Authorizations

SOURCE: Docket No. 19589, 45 FR 38346, June 9, 1980, unless otherwise noted.

§ 21.601 Applicability.

(a) This subpart prescribes—

(1) Procedural requirements for the issue of Technical Standard Order authorizations;

(2) Rules governing the holders of Technical Standard Order authorizations; and

(3) Procedural requirements for the issuance of a letter of Technical Standard Order design approval.

(b) For the purpose of this subpart—

(1) A Technical Standard Order (referred to in this subpart as “TSO”) is issued by the Administrator and is a minimum performance standard for specified articles (for the purpose of this subpart, articles means materials, parts, processes, or appliances) used on civil aircraft.

(2) A TSO authorization is an FAA design and production approval issued to the manufacturer of an article which has been found to meet a specific TSO.

(3) A letter of TSO design approval is an FAA design approval for a foreign-manufactured article which has been found to meet a specific TSO in accordance with the procedures of § 21.617.

(4) An article manufactured under a TSO authorization, an FAA letter of acceptance as described in § 21.603(b), or an appliance manufactured under a letter of TSO design approval described in § 21.617 is an approved article or appliance for the purpose of meeting the regulations of this chapter that require the article to be approved.

(5) An article manufacturer is the person who controls the design and quality of the article produced (or to be produced, in the case of an application), including the parts of them and any processes or services related to them that are procured from an outside source.

(c) The Administrator does not issue a TSO authorization if the manufacturing facilities for the product are located outside of the United States, unless the Administrator finds that the location of the manufacturer's facilities places no undue burden on the FAA in administering applicable airworthiness requirements.

§ 21.603 TSO marking and privileges.

(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section and § 21.617(c), no person may identify an article with a TSO marking unless that person holds a TSO authorization and the article meets applicable TSO performance standards.

(b) The holder of an FAA letter of acceptance of a statement of conformance issued for an article before July 1, 1962, or any TSO authorization issued after July 1, 1962, may continue to manufacture that article without obtaining a new TSO authorization but shall comply with the requirements of §§ 21.3, 21.607 through 21.615, 21.619, and 21.621.

(c) Notwithstanding paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section, after August 6, 1976, no person may identify or mark an article with any of the following TSO numbers:

- (1) TSO–C18, –C18a, –C18b, –C18c.
- (2) TSO–C24.
- (3) TSO–C33.
- (4) TSO–C61 or C61a.

§ 21.605 Application and issue.

(a) The manufacturer (or an authorized agent) shall submit an application for a TSO authorization, together with the following documents, to the Manager of the Aircraft Certification Office for the geographic area in which the applicant is located:

(1) A statement of conformance certifying that the applicant has met the requirements of this subpart and that the article concerned meets the applicable TSO that is effective on the date of application for that article.

(2) One copy of the technical data required in the applicable TSO.

(3) A description of its quality control system in the detail specified in § 21.143. In complying with this section, the applicant may refer to current quality control data filed with the FAA